

In the Abstract:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

~~This invention comprises a~~ A target device for firing practice. ~~At comprising at least one~~
thermal target surface is heated by an electrically current passing through same. The thermal
target surface ~~comprises~~ includes a number of current coils (10) arranged so as to conduct the
current from a first area (14) of the target surface to a second area (15). Each current coil (10)
~~comprises~~ includes current conductors (11) disposed essentially in parallel with one another at a
first distance from one another. The current conductors (11) are connected to one another at
their ends so that they form ~~said~~ the current coil from the first area to the second area. Proximate
current coils are mutually connected via bridges (13).

~~Fig. 3~~

Remarks

Claims 16-35 are now pending in this application. Applicants have cancelled claims 1-15 and present new claims 16-35 to clarify the present invention.

Applicants have amended the abstract of the disclosure to more closely conform to standard U.S. format. Applicants submit herewith on a separate sheet a clean copy of the abstract of the disclosure.

The Examiner indicated that claims 3-5, 9-11 and 15 recite allowable subject matter. Newly presented independent claim 16 combines claims 1 and 3. Newly presented claims 17-30 depend from claim 16. Newly presented independent claim 31 combines claims 1 and 9 and 6, which claim 9 depended from. Newly presented claims 32-34 depend from claim 31. Therefore, claims 16-34 should be allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 6-8, and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent 4,063,069 to Peeri in view of U.S. patent 4,540,878 to Sato.

The combination of Peeri and Sato does not suggest the present invention as recited in newly presented independent claim 35 since, among other things, the combination does not suggest a target device that includes a heat insulating layer, a first substrate layer arranged on the heat insulating layer, a plurality of current coils arranged on the first substrate, a plurality of bridges connecting adjacent current coils, and a protective layer arranged over the current coils.

Peeri only suggests a typical carpet pile with a conductive wire woven into the pile. The wire is Teflon coated to help resist forces from people walking on the carpet. There is no substrate that wiring is arranged on or a heat insulating layer. The fibers of the carpet are woven into the backing suggested by Peeri as described at col. 2, lines 49-53. Sato only suggests a mesh of wires. The wire mesh suggested by Sato does not suggest connecting bridges connecting adjacent coils. One of skill in the art of target making would not look to heatable flooring to provide solutions to targets for simulating heat signatures of real targets. Therefore, the combination of Peeri and Sato does not suggest the present invention as recited in newly presented independent claim 35.

In view of the above, the references relied upon in the office action, whether considered alone or in combination, do not suggest patentable features of the present invention. Therefore, the references relied upon in the office action, whether considered alone or in combination, do not make the present invention obvious. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection based upon the cited references.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance.

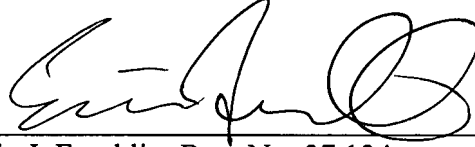
If an interview would advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant respectfully urges the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit

overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/9/07

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Franklin", written over a horizontal line.

Eric J. Franklin, Reg. No. 37,134

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